

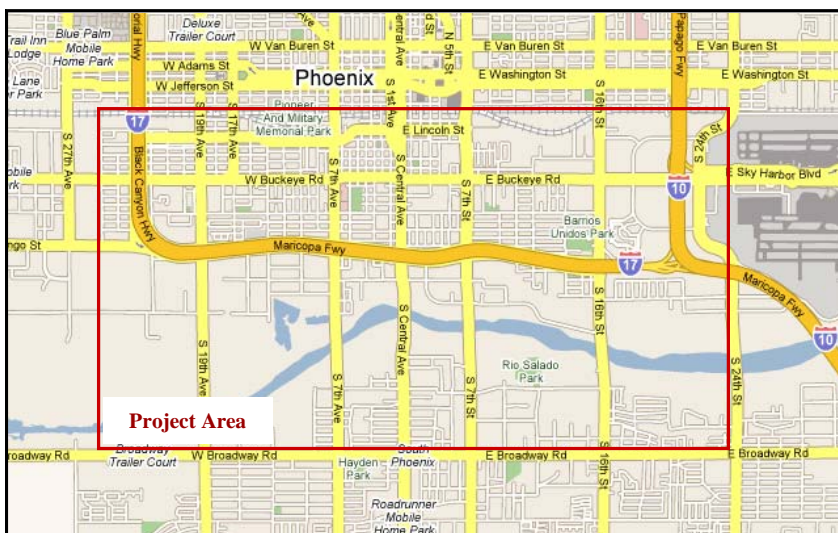


# The South Phoenix Multi-Media Toxics Reduction Project Update

In 2002, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded funds to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) to develop a multi-media toxics reduction (MMTR) project, bringing together community representatives, environmental experts, and state and local officials. The goal was to develop cost effective actions to reduce toxic pollution in targeted areas of South Phoenix and to protect the health of community members.

## Project Overview

In June 2003, ADEQ formed a citizen advisory committee, the South Phoenix Community Action Council (CAC) to identify environmental issues of concern in their communities. A group comprised of EPA, ADEQ, Arizona Department of Health Services, Maricopa County Environmental Services Department (MCESD), and the City of Phoenix, provided the CAC with an environmental profile of the South Phoenix area. The CAC then identified the geographic area for the project and determined the highest priorities for reducing toxic pollution.



Through the efforts of EPA, ADEQ, MCESD, and the City of Phoenix, we have made progress in achieving better air quality in South Phoenix today and area industries are committed to further reducing emissions in the future. The following is a summary of the project's accomplishments and other on-going efforts. These efforts have and will continue to achieve significant toxic reductions from both stationary and mobile sources. For more information, the South Phoenix Multi-Media Toxics Reduction Plan can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/region09/air/phoenix/soPhoenixMMTR-toxics-reduction-plan.pdf>.

## Pollution Prevention

The Industry Challenge/Good Neighbor Partnership (IC/GN) is a voluntary partnership between EPA, Maricopa County, ADEQ, community leaders, and industries located in South Phoenix. The IC/GN was launched in March 2005 and runs through spring 2008, with the aim of reducing routine air emissions of priority pollutants by 20 percent between 2002 and 2007, adjusted to production, and reducing the number and severity of accidental releases. Through the end of 2005, there was already a reduction of 18,452 pounds of air pollutants, adjusted to production, in South Phoenix. In total, eleven companies have established an average 31 percent reduction goal, adjusted to production, for air emissions of 21 high priority, high toxicity chemicals. Also as part of the IC/GN, EPA performed five free, non-regulatory safety audits of South Phoenix companies in order to improve their site safety and prevent accidental releases. In May 2006, twenty-six Phoenix area businesses attended an ammonia refrigeration safety training, sponsored by EPA and the Phoenix Fire Department. IC/GN partner companies report their site safety improvements and emissions reductions annually. Please visit <http://www.phoenixindustrychallenge.com/> for more information and updates.

As part of its children's health initiative, ADEQ established a school bus idling policy and outreach program to encourage schools to reduce student and driver exposure to vehicle exhaust by limiting unnecessary idling. Phoenix Elementary, Phoenix Union High, Murphy Elementary, and Roosevelt Elementary are participating in the program. In addition, ADEQ implemented a policy requiring schools to be taken into account when evaluating permit applications for operations regulated by ADEQ. In 2005, EPA provided ADEQ with a \$20,000 grant to present Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools training along with ADEQ's Integrated Pest Management training to eleven school districts.

## Rulemaking, Permitting, Inspections, Compliance and Enforcement



**Enforceable Permits** – The Phoenix Brickyard permit requires that the company install air pollution control equipment for the reduction of particulate matter. This facility was a major concern for local residents.

ADEQ's new rule to limit emissions of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) was approved in April 2006 by the Governor's Regulatory Review Council. ADEQ's rule sets maximum emission levels for HAPs and requires new and modified sources of HAPs to install air pollution control technology to reduce the amount of HAPs emitted into the air.

In cooperation with Maricopa County, EPA reviewed air quality permits for numerous companies, including Goodrich Aircraft Interior Products, L&M Laminates, Marlam Industries Inc., Phoenix Brick Yard, Henry Products, and Trendwood Inc., to make sure that all applicable permit requirements are being met.

ADEQ and Maricopa County have taken numerous steps to improve the compliance of South Phoenix companies. These include providing outreach and educational assistance to help reduce the frequency of noncompliance and implementing focused inspection initiatives in the South Phoenix area.

Aggressive enforcement, along with heavy penalties and supplemental environmental projects, has resulted in better compliance and reduction in air emissions. For instance, an inspection of the Super Radiator Coils, Inc., led to a permit revision

and compliance with the air toxics standard by the company. Maricopa County took enforcement actions against Marlam Industries and United Metro/Rinker Materials resulting in notices of violation and corrective action. EPA took a joint enforcement action with Maricopa County against Henry Products. The company installed a new pollution control device and is now in compliance.

## Diesel Exhaust Reductions

EPA and ADEQ have been working with the City of Phoenix to implement retrofits of City-owned diesel street sweepers, garbage trucks, and off-road equipment operating in South Phoenix. For the next phase of the MMTR project, funds will be provided to the City of Phoenix, which will lead to substantial reductions of diesel pollution, including emissions of PM-2.5, and other air toxics. The City is contributing substantial resources to the project, including staff and management time in identifying diesel engines suitable for retrofit and appropriate diesel exhaust reduction technologies, a request for proposals, and implementation. The City will work with EPA and ADEQ to quantify the emissions and health benefits upon completion of the project.



*Diesel street sweeper*